

# SOCCEER ACTION

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## Rudi needs new midfield strongman

**John Yzendoorn's illness has drained the Socceroos of midfield strength in the difficult match against England B at the St Andrews Ground in Birmingham next Monday.**

Yzendoorn's tasking and marking were to have counterbalanced the free play of Ken Boden in a match plan which allows for only two midfielders because two stoppers — Tony Henderson and Murray Barnes — play in front of sweeper Ivo Prskalo.

The players with the qualities necessary to fill Yzendoorn's position are Alan Davidson and Arno Bertogna who now have the chance to establish themselves firmly in the first eleven.

The tour ended for Yzendoorn when it was found he had glandular fever.

Steve Hogg of Brisbane Lions was due to leave for London yesterday (Tuesday) to replace Yzendoorn, who will join his parents in Nottingham to recover.

Yzendoorn still hopes to have a trial with Ipswich Town during this trip. So does goalkeeper Greg Woodhouse, even though the ASF has banned transfers overseas by members of the national team.

The players with the qualities necessary to fill Yzendoorn's position are Alan Davidson and Arno Bertogna who now have the chance to establish themselves firmly in the first eleven.



Steve Hogg



John Yzendoorn



Alan Davidson

Meanwhile, coach Rudi Gutendorf has vetoed the suggested match against the English Alliance League in Scarborough on November 11, saying "I will not downgrade the name of Australia."

A match against Tunisia may replace the Scarborough on 31 May.

The squad is: Garry Bailey

(Manchester United), Phil Parkes (West Brom), Brendon Boreham (West Brom), Kevin Bond (Ipswich), Russell Osman (Ipswich), Shaun Elliot (Sunderland), Derek Statham (West Brom), Steve Williams (Southampton), Brian Talbot (Arsenal), Gordon Cowans (Aston Villa), Dennis Mortill

mer (Aston Villa), Alan Sunderland (Arsenal), Peter Regis (West Brom), Peter Ward (Nottingham Forest), Kevin Reeves (Manchester City), Peter Barnes (West Brom), Alan Devonshire (West Ham), David Armstrong (Middlesbrough).

Ted Simmons reports that a depressed Yzendoorn said he believed the illness followed his vaccinations one week before the tour started.

"I was in bed for three days and felt even worse after the flight to Athens. I feel really sick and not playing as it is a tremendous loss and it would have been the highlight of my career," he said.

Yzendoorn watched the international against Greece

at the Alexandra Stadium in Athens last night.

He plans to attend the matches the Socceroos will play against England B and Leicester City and then hopes to train with Ipswich.

The loss of Yzendoorn follows the pattern of other Australian tours including the 1979 visit to China when Joe Senkalski had to return home because of injury.

The Australians completed two full scale workouts the day before the game against Greece.

Gary Cole especially was in devastating form. He slammed and clipped at least six goals past both Allan Maher and Greg Woodhouse during a non-stop 45 minutes game.

An interested and enthusiastic small crowd watched the training session and were impressed with the size and shooting power of Cole, Eddie Krncevic and Alan Davidson and the lightning reflexes of Woodhouse.

"The boys are sharp but winning is not the most important issue in these games," said Gutendorf.

"We would like to win the big matches but our World Cup program is more important," he added.

"The boys will eat, sleep and drink soccer."

"Our object is to qualify for the World Cup, and we must learn what we can from the tour to strengthen our team."

Steve Hogg, already on standby in case of emergency, was confirmed at his parents' caravan park on Bronte Island near Brisbane.

He quickly obtained a clearance from Griffith University, where he is studying for a degree in Australian Environmental Studies.

Industrial trouble on the domestic airlines meant that Hogg had to make a 1000 kilometre dash by car from Brisbane to Sydney, arriving on Monday and leaving by Qantas the following day.

Hogg was barely 17 when he started playing in the Philips League with Canberra City.

This season he transferred to Melbourne Lions.

As a youth international, Hogg won a resounding success in World Youth Championship matches, playing in both New Zealand and Paraguay in 1978-79.

He now has the chance to catch Gutendorf's eye once again, and possibly obtain his first senior international cap against Israel, Hong Kong or Indonesia later in the tour.

Australia's team against Greece was: Woodhouse - Prskalo - Perry, Henderson, Barnes, Tansey, Boden, Davidson, Krncevic - Sharne, Cole.

### One to go

Next week's issue of "Soccer Action" will be the last of 1980.

We then have our usual off-season break and we'll be back for the Ampol Cup in late January.



John Kosmina in action for the Socceroos.

## Sydney City does it again

**Sydney City maintained the most selective recruiting policy in Australian soccer by buying West Adelaide striker John Kosmina for more than \$20,000 last week.**

He will move from Adelaide to Sydney on December 1.

Kosmina will join Mark Trenerry and Ken Boden in Sydney City's attack.

This will involve coach Eddie Thomson changing the team's style of play, as Thomson had only two strikers in 1980.

Although Kosmina has not been in great form this year, he should prove as good a buy as Ken Boden, who switched from Newcastle at the start of 1980 from Newcastle United where he won the 1978 Australian Player of the Year award.

Another shrewd acquisition about the same time was John Spanos from Morley Windsors (WA). Spanos won the 1980 Australian Under 21 Player of the Year award, and was named Sydney City's player of the year last week.

He is now on tour with the national squad.

Kosmina spent the 1978 season with Arsenal in the English First Division, playing a few senior games but spending most of the time on the bench or in the club's second team.

Arsenal manager Terry Neil signed Kosmina after watching him play for Australia against Arsenal, Red Star and Celtic in the "World of Soccer" series of 1977.

Kosmina is a product of South Australian State League club Port Lincoln, from where he joined West Adelaide for the start of the PSL in 1977.

He made his debut in the national team under coach

Jimmy Shouler against Italy in Adelaide in 1976. Australia won 3-0.

He has played 37 games for Australia, including 21 full internationals, and he has scored 12 Socceroos goals, including six in World Cup games.

He has scored a total of 27 goals in Philips League Philips Cup and top four series matches.

A few players probably will leave Sydney City during the off-season. Among them is striker Terry Smith, who has been given permission to negotiate with other clubs. Sydney City is said to be interested.

Sydney City has signed defender Mike Lynch, a member of the national youth squad, who plays for Tricolore.

It is negotiating with two other youth internationals.

John Spanos' brother, Chris, a midfielder, has won the best player award for Sydney City's Federation team and, together with Jim Patikas, will make a strong claim for senior selection next season.

Sydney City has four players in the national youth squad — Patikas, Gerardo Gomez, Grant Lee and Brett Woods.

Their chance of getting into the senior team will be affected by the world youth titles next year, as the four players will have to miss league matches due to training camps and other national team commitments. — LAURIE SCHWAB

**1977: 693,304**  
**1978: 790,852**  
**(14% up)**

**1979: 778,458**  
**(1.6% down)**  
**1980: 668,956**  
**(14% down)**

## PSL crowds down 14%

By LAURIE SCHWAB

**Total Philips League crowds for 1980 dropped by 109,502, or 14% since last season, on figures published weekly in the Press.**

**And the 1979 total figure was 12,394 less than the 1978 record of 790,852.**

**Over the past two years therefore, there has been a drop on 121,896 or 15.4%**

The figures are not precise as in most cases, clubs do not make attendance figures available to the Press on match days.

So the figures we use are mostly estimates by reporters at the game. If they are not 100% accurate, they do however reflect the trends from year to year.

It is because of the alarming downturn in attendances that the Philips League and the Australian Soccer Federation have turned their attention to marketing.

The introduction of summer soccer, the addition of strongly-supported clubs Makedonia and Olympic to the PSL and the return of television coverage should help revive public interest next season.

If not, clubs will find it increasingly difficult to maintain the level of competition that now is represented by the PSL. With less money coming through the gates, team expenditure has to be cut.

Most PSL clubs finished 1980 deeply in the red. Adelaide City was the only club open enough to call a meeting of creditors to explain the position and put forward a repayment plan.

Sydney City and St. George, both supported poorly at the gates, are subsidised heavily by their social clubs but Brisbane Lions, Footscray J.U.S.T., Brisbane City and others do not have such luxuries.

If new marketing initiatives fail to fan interest in the league, and in the less fashionable clubs, many must make the decision to tighten their belts drastically or face financial ruin.

Newcastle United remains the most popular club in the league, even though its total attendance in 1980 was a disastrous 50,907 lower than in 1979, on Press figures.

But even the 1980 total of 82,233 was almost 20,000 more than that of the second-most popular club, Marconi.

Adelaide City has lost more than 47,000 since its high of 1977 and both Brisbane clubs have lost almost half the support they had in 1977, the first year of the league.

**Attendances for each club since the start of the PSL in 1977. Totals are given first, then the breakdown into seasons. Number of seasons played is indicated in brackets.**

	Total	1977	1978	1979	1980
1. Newcastle Utd	319,872 (3)	104,499	133,140	82,233	
2. Adelaide City	293,075 (4)	99,377	73,826	67,889	51,983
3. South Melbourne	288,053 (4)	63,960	77,400	61,455	
4. West Adelaide	270,748 (4)	75,662	87,640	63,516	43,930
5. Marconi	258,812 (4)	50,759	76,191	65,743	66,119
6. Heidelberg	249,494 (4)	66,460	61,000	61,630	60,404
7. Canberra City	190,988 (4)	22,800	62,592	53,051	52,665
8. Brisbane City	184,114 (4)	67,012	45,310	40,480	31,312
9. Brisbane Lions	147,994 (4)	54,519	39,600	22,815	31,060
10. Footscray JUST	143,776 (4)	45,820	31,875	32,469	39,965
11. Sydney Olympic	135,122 (3)	46,661	48,495	39,965	
12. Sydney City	125,230 (4)	31,326	26,899	30,474	31,555
13. St. George BSC	117,815 (4)	25,501	28,209	30,984	33,631
14. APIA-Lhardt	100,790 (2)	40,100	22,637	17,463	55,912
15. West Suburbs	36,100 (1)				36,100
16. Blacktown	33,379 (1)	13,379			
17. Mooroolbark	13,379 (1)	13,379			

## Hellas back in State League?

**A major reorganisation of Victorian leagues is likely within the next few weeks.**

South Melbourne Hellas has applied to have its second team moved from the Metro League Second Division to an enlarged, 14-club State League.

Most other State League clubs appear to favor the move, as Hellas would bring at least some people through the ranks to the Phillips League team.

Preston Makedonia and Footscray J.U.S.T. also keen to have their second teams play in the State League, but Heidelberg apparently

is not interested, as it does not have a suitable ground.

Hellas president Sam Papavas said: "State League clubs would give us a better chance of attracting players with the potential to advance to the Phillips League team."

"Fielding a State League team would cost us 50% more than the Second Division team, but I'm sure we could draw at least 1000 people to our home games and so cover the additional cost."

Continued page 2

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**REPORT from COCA-COLA BOTTLERS**

Page 15



# Chaldi's changes were too drastic

**During a West Adelaide media night three days before the start of the 1980 season, a journalist asked Gerry Chaldi if the club was capable of winning the Philips League championship.**

Chaldi hesitated for a moment and retorted: "I will tell you after Sunday."

Chaldi never answered that question, but it was apparent after the season-opener 1-1 draw with Newcastle that West Adelaide would not repeat its 1978 title success.

Indeed, when Gary Cole slumped a first-half hat-trick a week later in a 4-2 Heidelberg win, followed by a 7-0 Sydney City mauling, it was painfully obvious that West would face a relegation crisis.

"West's problems really began on that media night."

In the presence of half of Adelaide's soccer media, Chaldi took midfielder Garrie Dooley to a corner and had a hushed and stern conversation with him.

Nobody quite knew what to make of it, but within three days Dooley had left the club.

Dynamic midfielder Peter Boyle followed two weeks later to join another Chaldi victim, Con Kambas, at State team Port Adelaide.

So, with three hefty swings of the axe, Chaldi made the changes he thought were necessary.

But the truth is that in his endeavour to rid the team of players he believed would hamper his own plans he simply moved too quickly. He dropped players before getting adequate replacements.

Case in point, Rale Basic would never have axed Jimbo Muir had he not bought David

Jones or another similar defender.

The loss of Kambas and Boyle was a savage blow to West's stability.

Despite his short-comings, Kambas was probably the single most important member of the defence while many observers believed Boyle filled that role in midfield.

Of course Chaldi was not helped by the unexpected departure of David Jones to Adelaide City and a severe ankle injury to Barry Reynolds which kept him out for the entire season. That meant that with the exception of Vic Bozanic and Martyn Crook, the defence was completely reshaped.

With so many changes, some of which were simply forced on Chaldi, it always was going to be a difficult season.

And there was also the problem of lack of consistent effort

## Meno Toutsidis



from some of Chaldi's key men.

Despite its shocking away record (10 straight losses), as long as West kept winning at home (it won five of its first seven home matches) it appeared safe.

But when it began losing at

Hindmarsh Stadium, relegation became a reality.

But why did this 1980 season go so terribly wrong?

That's difficult to answer, but Chaldi's replacement, the affable Billy Birch, believed the side was too defensive when he took control.

Said Birch, a month before the end of the season: "Unless the lads begin to push forward, and I mean defenders as well as strikers, this club is going to be relegated."

The team responded immediately to Birch's attacking demands, scoring six goals in three games after having gone scoreless in the previous four matches.

Ironically, it deserved one of

its best performances against Marconi for the last day of the season.

The fact it did not score was

part of the sort of bad luck it had during the season.

Despite Birch's results,

he is the man the club and its supporters believe will get it on its feet again.

Birch is greatly admired within the club and State league team Croatia, which he led to this year's championship, for his character, energy, knowledge and straight talking.

One of Birch's main tasks next season is to restore confidence in West Adelaide.

That vital element was missing for most of the season

and played a large part in the club's downfall.

The other big task facing Birch is playing staff.

Birch has already made a list of the players who will be transferred and there are others whom he is looking at closely.

Birch has his sights set on two State league players, one player from interstate and experts to sign players from Britain in the new few months. He also wants Peter Boyle and Con Kambas back in his squad.

If Birch can galvanise his new squad and extract the sort of performances he expects from it, West could emulate South Melbourne and sweep up the top half of the table.

## Frank Leyden best

**Frank Leyden of North Sydney Inter has won a Holden car as the NSW Federation Coca-Cola Bottlers Player of the Year.**

Voting details:

41 F. Leyden (North Sydney)

39 B. Noble (Inter Monaro)

36 A. McPherson (Carr. M'ville)

33 D. Donovan (Parramatta), B. Doyle (Manly)

29 J. Stoddard (Melita), A. Link (Inter Monaro), J. McDonald (Auburn)

28 P. Ahrens (Avala), G. Lynch (Bankstown)

27 N. Williams (Cent.-M'ville), Z. Kafka (Croatia)

25 M. Barton (Avala), A. Scott (Olympic), W. Lachowicz (Bankstown)

24 S. Meades (Sutherland), S. Leake (Arncliffe), A. Anstiss (Arncliffe)

23 D. Allan (Melita), P. Haywood

(Inter Monaro), G. Byles (Carr. M'ville), J. Magill (Ku-Ring-Gai)

22 A. Tracy (Arncliffe), I. Dobson (Olympic)

21 P. Henman (Olympic), A. Dobson (Auburn)

20 A. McMillan (Auburn), M. Hayes (Sutherland), K. Coleman (Croatia), S. Watson (Croatia)

19 G. Brown (Carr. M'ville), V. Dafforno (Sutherland), B. Deller (Avala).

18 R. Wheatley (Ku-Ring-Gai).

17 J. Bottalico (North Sydney), M. Davis (Bankstown), M. Dower (Manly), D. Fox (Manly), J. O'Rourke (North Sydney), S. Vale (Manly), V. Darvill (Melita), E. Olympe (Manly), A. Kovacic (Croatia), S. Wilson (North Sydney)

16 D. Daley (Bankstown), T. Green (Melita), B. Kodor (Avala), K. Schumann (Sutherland), B. Taylor (Ku-Ring-Gai), J. Wigzell (Arncliffe)

15 R. Bigland (Parramatta), J. Lee (Arncliffe), S. Montgomery (Arncliffe), M. Ross (Auburn), E. Williamson (Bankstown), P. Thompson (Bankstown).

## SIX GET AXE AT WESTAD

### West Adelaide manager-coach

**Billy Birch has axed six members of the squad which plunged the club into the relegation zone this year.**

Defenders Vic Bozanic and Shraga Topolanski, strikers Graham Norris and Chris Key, midfielder Eric Carruthers and reserve goalkeeper Brian Gale all have been put on the transfer list.

And former Soccerco John Kosmina has signed for Sydney City. (see page one).

Bozanic is likely to join APIA

More players could be added to the transfer list if their form and attitude is not good.

Birch said the six players were transfer listed because of lack of form and attitude.

He does not believe some of the players acted in the best interests of the club this year.

Birch has begun looking for local, interstate and overseas replacements.

Whoever they are, one thing is certain. They will need to have plenty of fight as well as skill.

Birch said this week: "I don't think there were enough players in the West side who showed the dedication and determination needed to win a league title."

"We need players with the same sort of dedication which Port Adelaide showed in the South Australian Aussie Rules competition."

"Port players were a credit to their club and supporters. That's the way it should be with us."

"In fact, that's the way it's going to be."

Birch was impressed by the way Port destroyed opponents during the 21-match run round and then went on to win the grand final in difficult circumstances before \$3,000 fans.

Birch, who took control of West, for the last five matches of the season, was critical of the club's performances.

"West was fairly negative an unattractive. We want to win the premiership, and we also want to entertain."

"There will be no room for playing staff who do not want to perform."

"Last year there was far too much apathy in the club. That was bad. It's my job to sort that out."

What Birch really wants is for his team to show the sort of spirit that highlighted his brilliant career which began with Crystal Palace in England.

In 1967 he joined Adelaide Croatia and after some scintillating performances he was enticed to West Adelaide, then Hellas in 1968.

The club won the championship that season and

also the Ampol Cup, beating Adelaide City, then Juventus, 2-0 in the final, with Birch scoring the second goal.

He was also the best South Australian player against British club Cardiff City which scored a late 3-2 win for SA.

West repeated its

championship success in 1969, '73 and '76, while it won the Ampol Cup a further five times before the PSL was found.

It also on the top four Coca Cola Cup four times from 1970 and '76.

In all these triumphs,

Birch played a significant role, some as a midfielder, others as the club's coach.

Birch, who retired before

the PSL began, was asked to

replace Mike Johnson in 1977

as caretaker coach.

He left for England soon

after but returned a year

later with a coaching

certificate. However, on his

return he turned his attention to his restaurant business, with great success.

Birch revived his soccer connection in April when he took over troubled Croatia.

He successfully guided the club to its first ever premiership.

Birch continued to coach the club in the last few weeks of the season although he agreed to fill the same duty with West after Gerry Chaldi's removal.



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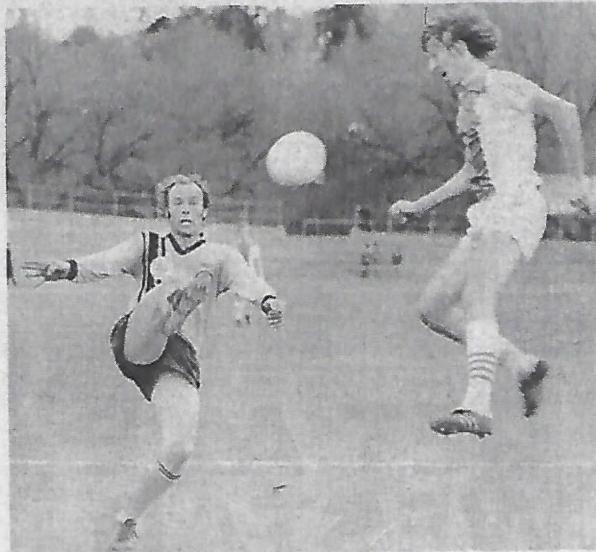
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# Arthur McMillan. best of the full backs



This shot by Arthur McMillan (left) is about to be blocked by Richie Bell (Sydney Olympic)

**Before "Soccer Action" closes its 1980 season I wish to pay tribute to a splendid full back, Arthur McMillan.**

In a Heidelberg team of stars McMillan receives less than his share of limelight.

On the scattered occasions I have seen Heidelberg play he always has given a solid performance amid the outstanding skills of Paton, Cole, Tansey, Campbell, Bozikas, Rooney and Selemidis.

It was not till I watched an Heidelberg poor performance in the Philips Cup final against Marconi earlier this month that I realised what a good player McMillan was.

He along with Pat Bannon and Jamie Paton, were the only ones who really played for Heidelberg that night.

There was total commitment from McMillan the whole evening, in stark contrast with the lack of application and effort by top striker Gary Cole.

McMillan contains players well and tackles them even better.

He is fit and ever ready to break forward, even though he does not



**MIKE JOHNSON**

have the same fluency of movement of Jim Tansey in possession of the ball.

He knows the game and passes on information to team mates around him.

He obviously is a great competitor.

Despite my very high regard for Steve Perry, going on McMillan's display against Marconi, there would not be a full back in the country to outmatch him at this moment.

Of course Perry is 28 as against the 32 of McMillan which obviously gives him the edge in national team considerations.

However, I am pleased to see that Rudi Gutendorf also has been impressed with McMillan's end-of-season form and rates him as a

national team squad possible, despite his age.

It is strange how players like McMillan can be taken for granted because they play well week in week out, with unspectacular performances, and consequently do not reach star status.

It is also strange how players over 30 years, like McMillan's team mate Jim Rooney, are looked at with much more critical eyes than those under that seemingly magic age barrier.

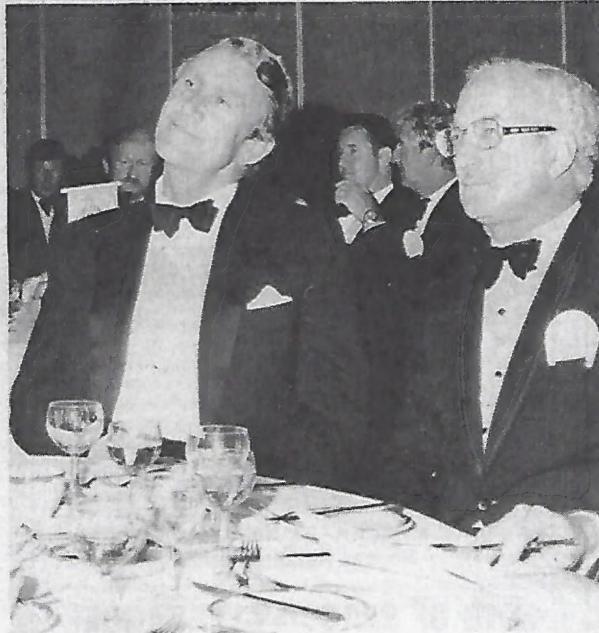
Despite playing out of position against Marconi in a wide midfield role, Jimmy Rooney gave me the distinct impression that there is still enough running in him to allow all his other qualities of leadership, foraging, passing and ball winning skills, to surface in World Cup competition.

Similarly Arthur McMillan, if he can maintain his end-of-season form next year, will surely have a lot to offer the national team squad.

Specifically he will offer the following: total commitment, total competitiveness, the tremendous fitness that goes hand in hand with those qualities, dedicated professionalism allied with sufficient skill in attack and defence to mix comfortably with international class players.

That to me sounds like a player I would love to have in any team of mine.

## NIGHT OF THE BOSSES



Pick the PM's mood: wistfulness, condescension, sheer delight or perhaps a degree of boredom with the whole show? At right is Ted Simmons, president of the NSW branch of the Australian Soccer Press Association.

"Official of the Year" awards would have been a more appropriate title for the gala Press dinner at Sydney's Menzies Hotel.

Officials were there in abundance, but you could count the players on the fingers of one hand.

The Pressmen themselves were most disappointed.

After all, these presentations — the fourth since the PSL started in 1977 — were introduced for the players, not the officials.

Yet I saw only Jim Hermiston of Brisbane Lions, Gary Cole and Jimmy Rooney of Heidelberg and a table of Sydney City players.

There wasn't a single player from Marconi, the Philips Cup winner, nor from APIA, Canberra, West Adelaide, Adelaide City, Footscray, Newcastle, St. George, Blacktown, South Melbourne or Brisbane City.

It turned out to be a night for the bosses, not for the players.

Yet I remember the first of these Press nights, at Melbourne's Hilton Hotel, in 1977, when players from all over Australia were there.

What's happened since? If the bosses are pushing out the players, the next step will be that they will push out the men who made these awards possible in the first place — the Pressmen themselves!

The painful fact is that the night at the Menzies was flat, dull and uninspiring.

The Prime Minister, who was guest of honor, deserved better. At least he should have been given the chance to meet a few players!

Hermiston was judged Player of the Year and his speech was a delight. That's what the Press wanted — color, something to write about. John Margaritis, the coach of the year, and John Spanos, the best under 21 player, also handled themselves

very well and I congratulate all of them.

I also congratulate Heidelberg and Sydney City for at least having taken players to the function.

The bosses wonder why it is that the game gets insufficient publicity, yet on a night like this, they push their most marketable commodity — the players — into the background.

I take my hat off to all the officials and to the work they do in the game, but they must get their priorities right. No-one cares what a club official has to say at a function like this.

However, if a player speaks, his words have a good chance of getting into the newspapers.

It was sad that we did not even see all the past winners of the ASPA awards — Ivo Prskalo, Eddie Krnecic, John Kosmina, for example. It is imperative that in future all past winners are invited, as they are to the Rothmans Medal dinners.

In its invitations to clubs, ASPA must stipulate that there should be only one official per club and that the rest must be players.

★★★  
World Cup competition is not for the young or the old, but for the very best, regardless of age.

It is with this in mind that I wish the Socceros and coach Rudi Gutendorf the best of luck on their current world tour.

Many of the players are inexperienced at top level, and not as mature as they should be.

The players who saw us through the 1973-74 World Cup campaign had a greater degree of maturity and experience, as well as the right temperament for top competition.

Much has been said and written about the current youth policy in the national squad. To me, this is absolute hogwash.

I repeat — World Cups are for the best. They are not testing grounds for promising youngsters.

Juventus's problems in the Victorian State League.

This case illustrates more clearly than any other the need for expert administration and a professional technical staff.

Juventus was the greatest club in Australia 10 years ago. Now it seems "Juve" is falling to pieces.



**RALE RASIC**



Andrew Lederer (left) with the Philips championship shield won by his club Sydney City. At right is Philips Industries executive E. Meijerink.



Mr. Meijerink presents the PSL grand final trophy to Heidelberg president Jim Mangopoulos.



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# THE SQUAD



In the dressing rooms during the Victoria Cup, from left: David Watt, Paul Kay and David Mitchell.



Midfielders Jim Patikas (left) and Peter Raskopoulos



Craig McLatchey gets treatment after being injured in a Victoria Cup match.



Youth team striker Ian Hunter and Canberra City's John O'Shea slide at the ball, which eludes both of them.



Goalkeeper Dennis Ivanac.



Glenn Ahern, nursing the arm he injured against Footscray.



Youth star Gerardo Gomez (left) pictured in Sydney City colors, with Footscray's Jim O'Reilly.



Youth team stopper Steve Blair (left) in action for Hellas against Footscray.

## FINE YOUTH TEAM IS TAKING SHAPE

The structure of the national youth team has started to emerge in the Victoria Cup series and it will become more clearly defined in Fiji and Israel over the next two months.

The team has speed in attack (Ian Hunter and David Mitchell), strength and height down the middle (Oscar Crino, Steve Blair, Gerardo Gomez, Vlatko Belic), a midfield leader (Peter Raskopoulos) and two absolutely brilliant goalkeepers (Dennis Ivanac and Glenn Ahern).

Not a bad start

Now these players must be moulded together into a unit and they must be given a match plan.

Looking at the players available, it seems to me that the best combination would be:

Ivanac — Crino — Wheatley, Gomez, Blair, Skeen — Kay, Belic, Raskopoulos — Hunter, Mitchell.

I favor two centre backs so as to give the greatest possible cover to Crino who must attack from the sweeper's position, as he is one of the finest players in the squad.

When Crino is back, either Gomez or Blair can move up with the attack.

And the presence of two centre backs also ensures that a man is handy to cover for either full back when that full back attacks.

Hunter and Mitchell are devastating on the break, and all three midfielders

are capable of linking up quickly with the front-runners.

The aim must be to prepare now for the tough opposition we will encounter from teams like England, Rumania, Holland, Italy and Poland in the world youth finals late next year.

The players must settle into match plan during the tournaments in Fiji and Israel in order to be proficient at it by the time of the finals.

They certainly have the ability.

Paul Kay, although a little small, has one of the finest football brains in the country.

Vlatko Belic is brilliant in the air, he can run all day and he is developing a reputation as a very tough competitor in the PSL where most of his opponents are much older.

Steve Blair has dealt capably even with Gary Cole, he tackles very well,



LAURIE SCHWAB

he's fast and almost unbeatable in the air.

Gerardo Gomez may not be as strong a tackler or as close a marker, but he's extremely skilful.

Dave Skeen is a multi-purpose player who can operate equally as well at full back as in midfield. He reads the play very well.

The other full back, Robert Wheatley, has excellent attacking qualities while never losing sight of his defensive responsibilities and Raskopoulos, as stated earlier, is the all-action midfield leader who operates with equal proficiency in any area of the field.

The same can be said of Paul Kay, but he is at his best attacking the goal.

Ian Hunter and David Mitchell are explosive strikers with great speed. Hunter is the more experienced player, and a more regular scorer, Mitchell is slightly faster, but also a little more impulsive.

Hunter has the strength and ball control to act as a target man, going first to ground passes, and laying them off first-time to a man going by. In this way he could service Mitchell on the run, or Kay, Raskopoulos or Belic moving through.

I favor Ivanac in goal only because of the brilliant performance I saw from him against Johnny Warren's all-star team in the curtain-raiser to the PSL grand final in Canberra, but Ahern is equally as good.

Clearly, the goalkeeping position is not a problem.

In the Victoria Cup, the youth players may have found the greater strength of their senior opponents

difficult to counter, yet they still managed 1-1 draws with J.U.S.T. and Juventus.

If physical strength comes into play during the world youth finals, the Australians will have the advantage.

Meanwhile, the young

Socceroos leave for Fiji on

3 December and should

return unbeaten on 15 Decem-

ber. They will play in Pool Two against Tahiti and New Caledonia. Pool One comprises New Zealand, Papua-New Guinea and Fiji.

Then it's off again to Israel on 22 December to compete against Norway, Israel, Rumania, Denmark and Sweden.

If they can expect a heroes' welcome on their return on 13 January.

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Zdravko Lujic crashes down onto Ljube Petrovski in the J.U.S.T. v Makedonia match at Middle Park.



Slobodan Jovanovic (left) races in to lend a hand but Lujic seems quite capable of coping.



So Jovanovic acts as prizefight supervisor — keep those fists closed, no gouging.



Makedonia's Steve Beech moves in to help Petrovski who's still floored, but Jovanovic reckons there's no need for two referees.

# LUCCHESI, JOVANOVIC, LUJIC OFF

By CRAIG MACKENZIE



Makedonia's Peter Ollerton (right), playing against his former team, has a shot at the J.U.S.T. goal. At left is Jim Milne.



**Jeff Faulkner best, says club**

Preston Makedonia has not one but three best and fairest players.

Midfielder Jeff Faulkner won the award on club votes, while Rob Cullen and George McMillan polled 'most referees' votes.'

Makedonia is likely to import up to three players from overseas to strengthen its squad for the 1981 PSL season.

All of its present players are permanent residents, so Makedonia is able to import the full quota of three.

## Nothing at stake

HELLAS 1 (Kekantonis) HAKOAH 1 (Webster) at Middle Park, crowd about 5,000.

HELLAS: Tagaris 7 - Bannon 8, Xanthopoulos 8, Blair 6, Lutton 8 - Niclades 7, Rogers 7, Wright 8 - Evans 8, Kekantonis 5 (Amarandis 8th), Buylev 6.

HAKOAH: Fryzzer 8 - Gladby 7, Dosen 8, Jordanou 9, Rooney 7 - Bannon 7, French 8, McNeil 6 - Webster 8, McClune 7, Kent 7.

Referee: Jim Fearn 7.

Hellas and Hakoah were playing to decide first and second spots in their section because they both had gained a semi-final berth before this game.

As it turned out 1-1 draw kept Hakoah on top of the section and gave Hellas the chance of confronting Makedonia in one of this Saturday night's semi-finals.

Hellas opened with Steve Blair as stopper, Arthur Xanthopoulos as sweeper and Bertie Lutton at left back.

Hellas was not as impressive when Lutton is removed from his customary sweeper's role and it failed to flatter against Hakoah.

Hakoah had the first good chance when Sammi Wright was robbed but Chris Kent's low shot from 25 metres went straight to Lou Tsigaras.

Hakoah struck first in the 25th minute.

Rogers passed back to Tsigaras but Richie McClunie was first to the ball. Tsigaras put McClunie under pressure and the ball ran loose to Bannon at Hakoah's right. He crossed to the near post as Tsigaras tried in vain to recover. Stan Webster ran in and hammered the ball home from three metres.

It wasn't surprising to see Hakoah lead because Hellas was struggling to find openings up front.

But Hellas struck back thanks to a piece of Evans magic in the 38th minute.

The former Liverpool striker turned brilliantly inside the area leaving Dosen floundering. Evans' hard right foot shot was parried by Mike Fryzzer to the feet of Steve Kekantonis who had little difficulty in tapping home from close range.

The second half barely warranted reporting.

In the 65th minute Bill Jordano and Evans took turns at kicking the ball into each other. Both earned a caution.

Hakoah had the best chance of this half.

A long ball by Jordano was misheaded by Xanthopoulos and Webster bounced but Tsigaras smothered well.

Otherwise both defences were on top and neither side showed enough flair or creativity to break through.

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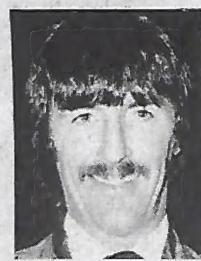


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**Jimmy Dunne**

Last Saturday night Dunne spoke to Brisbane City coach Guy Spiteri in which he gave his intentions clearly. I'll hang on until some time in December and if my position at Ajax is not resolved by then I'll pack up and go home, he said.

"Ajax asks too much for me," he said.

"I'll be surprised to find

Makedonia joining the race to sign the experienced sweeper.

It is believed that a prominent Brisbane City official rang Guy Spiteri last night (Tuesday) to discuss Dunne's future.

Don't be surprised to find

Makedonia joining the race to sign the experienced sweeper.

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**John Higham** expresses disagreement with **Janovic's** views, but team mate **Mike Rainey** wants **Higham** to keep his cool. The real referee, **Jack Readshaw** (left) moves in now, along with **Claude Lucchesi** who connects with **Lujic's** rear end.



And here comes **Makedonia** goalkeeper **Lou Kastner** (No. 1) and **J.U.S.T.**'s **Joe Picioane** (far left). Now **Beech** is tangled between **Lujic's** legs and **Petrovski** prepares to fade out of the scene (third from left).



**Strongman** **George McMillan** (No. 9) arrives to restrain **Lujic** — and who would argue with **McMillan**? **Joe Picioane**, that's who — he's yelling at the lot of them. Pictures by **LES SHORROCK**.

# McGUINNESS BACK FOR THE BIG ONE?

**Dissident Juventus star Bobby McGuinness** may play for Juve in tonight's (Wednesday's) all important Victoria Cup match against J.U.S.T. at 7 pm.

At Middle Park last Sunday Hellas president Sam Papasavas met with Juve president George Penzo to discuss terms for the possible transfer of McGuinness to Hellas.

This was an amazing turn-around in the fortunes of the 1980 Rothmans Medal winner who was sold by Hellas in 1979 to Ventnor for \$3,000.

It is believed that Hellas players Steve Kakantoni and Sammy Wright were offered in a straight swap for McGuinness.

But Juve was unhappy with the deal after Kakantoni's poor showing against Hakoah last Sunday.

Hellas then offered \$5,000 for McGuinness but Juve was looking for much more.

McGuinness has been in dispute with Juve since he was asked to work for his new club, Ventnor changed at half time of the Victoria Cup match against Makedonia.

He is adamant that he won't apologise but he has found himself popular once more with the Juve hierarchy.

Could his return to favor have anything to do with Juve's surprising Victoria Cup efforts which may culminate in a semi-final spot after tonight's game?

If J.U.S.T. is held to a draw and Makedonia defeats the youth J.U.S.T., Juventus and the youths will finish equal on two points and goal difference will decide which side grabs a semi-final berth.

After last weekend's 4-1 thrashing from Makedonia J.U.S.T. must defeat Juve convincingly.

Juve is experimenting with youngsters but it did well against the youth team last week.

The refreshing aspect of Juve's effort was the enthusiasm shown by regular first team players who have failed to put so much into some league games this year.

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

In midfield J.U.S.T. must improve on last Sunday's effort by at least 50%.

Zoran Iloski, Joe Picioane and Mirko Ruvic will have to work a great deal harder than they have in recent weeks.

With two strikers playing so wide it is essential that at least one midfielder breaks forward into space left in central attacking areas.

Iloski was the only J.U.S.T. midfielder to get into shooting situations last Sunday. Much more will be expected of his fellow midfielders tonight.

The key to Juve's chances rest with the talented Tony Heery and the enigmatic Mendo Ristovski. If they decide to turn it on it won't be one way traffic with J.U.S.T. in command.

The second match features the Australian youths against Makedonia.

Had Makedonia something to play for I wouldn't have given the youths any chance but with its top of the section status intact irrespective of the outcome of this match Makedonia may relax.

Perhaps coach Brian Edgley will take this opportunity to rest a couple of his stars and play youngsters instead.

The youths will likely rely upon the Calvin Daunt → David Mitchell partnership which looked good in the second half of last week's match against Juventus.

Mitchell scored a brilliant solo goal in that match and he started to look dangerous in the second half when feeding off Daunt's ability to win in the air.

If John Higham tags the huge Queenslander he will find Daunt a handful.

Paul Kay, Peter Raskopoulos and Jim Patikas would be a great midfield combination for the youths and ensure a worthy performance for the 1980 Victorian State League champion.

I think the youths can salvage a draw here but not without some stout defence.

The boy who tags Rob Cullen will know he's been in a tough game when the referee blows for full time.

# MAKEDONIA MEETS HELLAS IN SEMIS

**Hellas runs head-first into mighty Makedonia in the main game of Saturday's Victoria Cup semi-finals at Olympic Park.**

Makedonia overcame J.U.S.T. with ease last Sunday but the third placed PSL side for 1980, Hellas, represents a far bigger hurdle for Brian Edgley's team.

Rob Cullen, George McMillan and Peter Ollerton are Makedonia's trumps.

Their opponents, probably Vince Basini, Arthur Xanthopoulos, Bertie Lutton and Chris Kalafatis, are a steady defensive quartet but this contest will be decided in midfield.

Jeff Faulkner and Claude Lucchesi are tireless workers and Sammy Wright and Bill Rogers will have their work cut out.

But Makedonia must look

after Campbell who roams everywhere and that task is a fearsome prospect.

With Gordon Flavelle unavailable due to his overseas trip, Ljubo Petrovski is the best bet for sweeper. Petrovski also is the best player to tag Campbell where will Edgley put him?

Makedonia looks short staffed without Flavelle and Gary Ward and I expect Hellas to sneak into the final.

Hakoah will play in the other Victorian Cup semi-final but its opponent was yet to be decided as we went to press.

Tonight's (Wednesday's) games at Olympic Park will decide Hakoah's opponent.

Hakoah has been one of the surprises of the cup.

Richard McClunie and Stan Webster are fast developing into a good striking combination.

McClunie's aerial ability is complimented by Webster's ability on the ground and the two show a keen understanding.

Grahame French plays deep and Chris Kent often drops back in support of his midfielders. I'd like to see Kent get forward more often because there's no doubt his shooting ability but Hakoah is doing well so far in the Victoria Cup with French and Kent coming deep so there's no real reason for change.

Against Hellas last Sunday the defence looked solid with Anton Dosen and Bill Jordanson combining well in the central defensive position and Steve Gadsby and Sean Rooney playing intelligently in their full back roles.

Jordanson has been Hakoah's best player so far in the cup. He is fast and aggressive. Combine these qualities with his excellent football sense and you have one of the most underrated sweepers in Victoria.

Richard McClunie and Stan Webster are fast developing into a good striking combination.

McClunie's aerial ability is complimented by Webster's ability on the ground and the two show a keen understanding.

When he was satisfied that he was fully warmed up and ready to dazzle us all Venios, sitting at the official substitutes table on the half way line, decided that the Croatia first team keeper could not go on.

There was a simple solution. Venios could have replaced second string keeper Chris Kovac and feigned a hand injury whenever he first gained possession.

An outfield player could



**Stewart Cunningham** hooks the ball out for a corner before J.U.S.T. forwards Bruno Cozzella (left) and Dragan Vasic can do any damage.

## New boys shine

**JUVENTUS 1 (Incapitalupo) YOUTH TEAM 1 (Mitchell) at Olympic Park, crowd about 200.**

**JUVENTUS:** Fontana 9 — Di Quattro 8, Cavalieri 8 (in), Roggero 85th, Creany 8, Scardamaglia 7 — Sabidussi 8, Semipoli 7, Heery 8, — Ristovski 8, Incantalupo 8, Salvatore 7.

**YOUTH:** Ahern 8 — Lee 9 (in), Crino 8, Blair 7, Woods 8 — V. — M. — Patikas 8, Gomes 7, Little 8 — Mitchell 8, Belic 8 (Daunt H.T. 7).

**Referee:** Sam Zoumas 5.

Juve swept away the memory of its recent upheavals with a spirited display against the Youths who lacked the composure and organisation of their first Victorian Cup outing against J.U.S.T.

With the exception of Tony Heery, Mendo Ristovski and

**CROATIA 4 (Tront, Keenan) AJAX 0 at Olympic Park, crowd about 200.**

**CROATIA:** Kovac 8 — Short 7, Kocic 8, Murphy 7, Battaglia 8 (Kocic 80th), Glider 7, Grigas 6.

**AJAX:** Lukac 7 (Denys 7) — Hogben 7, Dunn 7, Kramers 7, Crisp 7 — Gambin 7 (Bacic 70th), Vassil 7, Velt 7 — Matic 8 (Bogello 8), Vojtek 7, Bell 7.

**Referee:** Mike Gaunt B.

I don't know why the Croats and Ajax reserves didn't play in the curtain-raiser to the big game between the Youths and Juventus.

Why didn't Evan Venios, the fourth official, allow Croatia on the second half?

Wasn't he Croats been hiding Brian Keenan this year?

Croatia took the field without John Gardiner, "Butch" Kokoska, Peter Blasby, Noel Mitten, Ante Bilaver and Howard Andrews.

Ajax was without Grant Smart, John Patten, Gerry Bennett, Andy Stevi, George Mire, Dave Perkin and Bill Morrey.

Their absence was an indication of the importance both camps placed upon this match.

Croatia and Ajax had little to play for and indeed less.

Croatia didn't have to work hard for its 4-3 win and Blasby and young Keenan provided some of the more interesting moments in an easily forgotten full back roles.

Jordan has been Hakoah's best player so far in the cup.

He is fast and aggressive. Combine these qualities with his excellent football sense and you have one of the most underrated sweepers in Victoria.

Richard McClunie and Stan Webster are fast developing into a good striking combination.

McClunie's aerial ability is complimented by Webster's ability on the ground and the two show a keen understanding.

When he was satisfied that he was fully warmed up and ready to dazzle us all Venios, sitting at the official substitutes table on the half way line, decided that the Croatia first team keeper could not go on.

There was a simple solution. Venios could have replaced second string keeper Chris Kovac and feigned a hand injury whenever he first gained possession.

An outfield player could

have switched strips with Blasby who could have shown his outfield prowess as planned.

Unfortunately we will never know whether Blasby could have turned it on and sent PSL talent scurts into a frenzied battle to sign the most adaptable top class player in Australian soccer history.

The highlights of the early exchanges were being able to sit in the press box and clearly hear Ajax coach Bobby McLachlan shouting instructions to his players and Bill Vojtek's two great chances which saw Kovac at his best in the Croatia goal.

Joe Tront strolled into the game and hammered a shot from a short free kick. The ball was deflected past Mike Lukac who had no chance of saving.

Just on half time Alan Kerr played the ball back to Ivan Grigas who tapped it square to Tront. He moved inside the area and hammered a low shot inside the far upright.

Calvin Daunt replaced Ivan Grigas at half time and although the Youths looked dangerous.

But Juve threatened to catch out the Youths on the break. Heery had moved up front and Ristovski burst into the game.

For all their forward impetus the Youths looked frustrated and ill at ease until Mitchell scored from a superb solo effort.

The Adelaide City youngster gained possession about 20 metres from Juve's area. He turned and set off for goal. Tiziano Vacallari, having a fine game as sweeper, tried to cut across Mitchell but was left in his wake. Scardamaglia was next to flounder and within a flash the young striker found himself 10 metres from goal but on a difficult angle on his left. With the outside of his right boot he stroked the ball past Fanticoma, who had been drawn to the near post, and inside the upright.

Calvin Daunt replaced the ball to the pressure on Fanticoma but the Juve keeper made a series of breathtaking saves, especially from two shots by Little, and the game deservedly ended in a draw. — GRAIG MCKENZIE

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# South Melbourne Hellas: aiming for title in '81

By  
CRAIG  
MACKENZIE

If a proud history ever becomes the prime criterion for success, Victorian PSL club South Melbourne Hellas will be one of the top teams in Australia every soccer season.

But the reality of success is steeped in the performances of the present and after the near disastrous season of 1979 Hellas has risen dramatically to grab third place on the 1980 PSL ladder.

Coach John Margaritis has gained great prestige for being at the helm of Hellas's rise from the dead by winning the Australian Soccer Press Association's Coach of the Year award at the recent annual presentation night in Sydney.

Margaritis beat a well credentialed field of contestants and his win represented Press acknowledgement of the effort involved in coaching a side whose morale was in tatters after finishing last in the 1979 PSL race.

The Tony Turner affair robbed Hellas of its team spirit, according to club president Sam Papasavas, a Melbourne City Councillor.

Turner played in the opening games but the PSL ruled he was ineligible to play and Hellas lost the points accumulated before the PSL ruling and slipped to last place on the ladder.

"After the Turner affair things went against us," said Papasavas.

"Our morale was low on and off the field and once this develops you start to act like a loser," he continued.

"The players could have done better but they were up against it once they lost their confidence."

"We had the talent but they just didn't produce."

Talent is a word synonymous with the history of Hellas. Indeed, few clubs could boast the name players which have worn the blue and white of Hellas over the past 20 years or more.

Heading Hellas's talent list is the great Con Nestoridis, the finest striker Greece has produced since the war and a star with AEK and the Greek national team.

In 1966 Nestoridis joined Hellas at the age of 37 and crowds immediately doubled.

Present coach Margaritis came to Hellas as a player with a fine reputation which he certainly justified. Jim Adam, who coached Sydney Olympic this year, was another Hellas great. He joined the club after stints with Luton Town, Aston Villa and Stoke City.

But pride of place must go to the long serving stars, the players who were stalwarts over many years.

These include present-day Hellas players Steve Walker and Jimmy Armstrong.

Another was Ernie Ackley, a great forward who joined from England in 1964 and played with Hellas for about seven years.

John Bedford was Hellas's longest serving player with well over 500 games, many as club captain.

Bedford was a long-serving State player as were Armstrong, Walker, Dave Gorrie, Mike Mandelis, Jimmy Pyrgolios, Jim Mantarakis and Peter Bourne.

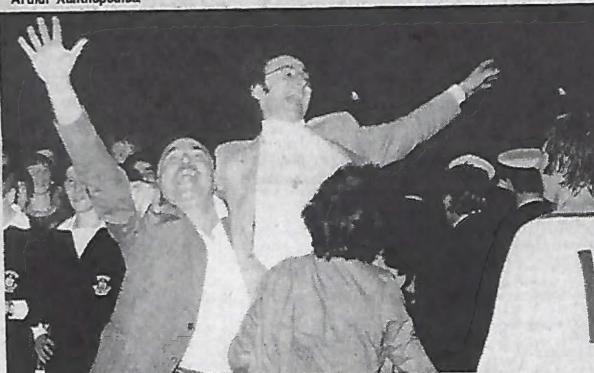
That tough and controversial defender Taki Xanthopoulos played for Hellas before joining Alex ander.

Arend Roussis gave distinguished service after joining from Greek club Apollon and of course there was the elegant midfield general Boulos Kambouropoulos.

In earlier years Hellas was best served by Tony Hatzileftheriou, George Papadopoulos, John Tsolakis, Stratos Kalogoros,



South Melbourne Hellas, 1980, from left, back row: Leo Anzakas (team manager), Steve Kakantoni, Steve Blair, Branko Buljevic, Peter Laumets, Lou Tsigaras, Duncan Cummings, Bertie Lutton. Middle row: George Christopoulos, Alan Davidson, Vince Bannon, Alun Evans, Chris Kafatidis, Mike Watson (trainer), John Margaritis (coach). Front: Sammy Wright, George Campbell, Arthur Xanthopoulos.



Club president Sam Papasavas celebrates one of Hellas's many victories with supporter Alex Athanasiadis.

Harry Vamvakas and Savvas Salambasis.

In the 70's the great Jim Mackay gave fine service to Hellas, Victoria and Australia.

These players and many more have played their part in making Hellas the most successful club in Victoria.

But soccer is based on results, not history and the man responsible for this season's amazing revival are the stars of the present and perhaps the future.

Margaritis took some time before settling on the tried and trusted 4-3-3 formation which brought Hellas out of the doldrums in 1980.

The only two new signings were Vince Bannon from Victorian State League club Frankston and Branko Buljevic from Heidelberg United.

Bannon must rate as one of the buys of the season.

His consistency has been instrumental in Hellas tightening the gaps which led to giving away so many soft goals last year.

Bannon is a fine ball winner but he is most impressive when space opens up ahead. He is quick to push forward and has been one of Hellas's best attacking vehicles wide on the right.

Buljevic is one of the best finishers in the PSL.

His work rate often has come under criticism but his distribution and ball skill can change the complexion of a game in an instant.

The switch of Bertie Lutton to sweeper has proved extremely effective.

Lutton reads play well and his vision and "distribution are first class. His consistency in the sweeper's role has been another factor instrumental in Hellas's stability at the back throughout the league season.

Arthur Xanthopoulos had a great future in Australian soccer a couple of years ago but his return to the first team in 1980 was criticised by some members of the Press.

He can be in trouble against a striker who turns well on the ball but he has been solid this season and a perfect foil for the stylish Lutton. Xanthopoulos and Lutton have given Hellas its most stable central defensive combination since the inception of the PSL.

Alan Davidson Hellas has one of the most skillful left backs in the land.

Davidson is so assured and calm under pressure that he is a major boon to Hellas's back four.

Earlier this year he tagged Gary Cole in a league game at Olympic Park.

Cole did not only took Cole out of the game but he also found time to surge forward and build up attacking moves.

Peter Laumets is the Hellas goal gets little recognition but he always has been brimful of potential.

Since moving to Hellas he has represented Victoria and Australia and he has established himself as Hellas's regular first team keeper this year.

In midfield Hellas boasts Billy Rogers, George Christopoulos and George Campbell.

Former Wolves player Sammy Wright has battled for a minor first team berth. His current form is a valid indicator of his ability then his omission means Hellas has enormous depth in this area.

Rogers is at his best when ghosting into forward positions, usually at the far post, for crosses. He is exceptional in the air, his work rate is commendable and he is a real fighter.

Christopoulos strikes me as a moody player. This year he has on occasion shown more fight and aggressiveness than usual and his fierce shooting has given Hellas an added avenue to goal.

Many superlatives have been used to describe the dynamic George Campbell.

His diminutive frame ear-marks him as a crowd favorite immediately but he has proven their assessment wrong with a series of brilliant performances.

There can be no accolades heaped upon Campbell as fitting as the acknowledgement of his effort in recovering from a broken leg to come back and perform so well.

It's a testament to his professionalism and his love of the game.

Up front Hellas was looking to the Alan Evans, Duncan Cummings, Buljevic partnership to reward rewards this year.

Evans temporarily lost his club captaincy earlier in the season for gesturing to the Hellas supporters who were heckling him during a league game at Middle Park.

His gesture was indicative of his frustration on the day. He was playing well in an unaccustomed role as midfield playmaker. However the crowd expected more of their captain, a cross anyone who has graced Anfield, the famous home of England's premier club side Liverpool, has been.

Evans came here with a justified reputation as a top-class striker, not a top-class midfielder.

Hellas has a record of excellence in Victorian soccer. Here is the club's list of honours:

1980: First Division North champion, promoted to State League.  
1982: State League champion  
1984: State League champion  
1985: State League champion  
1986: State League champion  
1987: Ampol Cup winner  
1972: State League champion  
1974: State League champion, Division One Cup winner  
1975: Victorian Cup winner  
1976: State League champion, Ampol Cup winner.

Hellas's results in 1980:

Hellas 0 Hellenberg 0, Brisbane Lions 1 Hellas 2, West Adelaide 1 Hellas 0, Hellas 1 Sydney City 2, Blacktown City 3 Hellas 3, Hellas 1 APIA 0, Hellas 2 Croydon 0, Hellas 0 Frankton 0, Heidelberg 0, TOP FOUR Hellas 4 Marconi 3, Heidelberg 4 Hellenberg 1.

Hellas's complete list of Hellas's goalcorers in 1980. The first figure denotes total goals scored, the second denotes league goals, the third denotes Ampol, Phillips Cup and Top Four Goals:

16 - 8 & 8 Evans

15 - 10 - 5 Buljevic

10 - 6 & 4 Campbell

7 - 4 & 2 Cummings, 3 & 4 Christopoulos

5 - 3 & 2 Rogers

4 - 2 & 2 Xanthopoulos

3 - 2 & 1 Bannon

2 - 2 & 0 Wright; 1 & 1 Kakatos

1 - 0 & 1 Lutton.

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3 - 2 & 1 Bannon

2 - 2 & 0 Wright; 1 & 1 Kakatos

1 - 0 & 1 Lutton.

In 1978 we never won the big games," said Papasavas.

"But this year we beat Marconi three times and Heidelberg once."

Cummings is an enigmatic performer.

In his earlier years he was an outstanding prospect but for a long time he failed to realise his full potential.

When he fires however, Hellas looks great, especially on the break.

Cummings is an enigmatic performer.

In his earlier years he was an outstanding prospect but for a long time he failed to realise his full potential.

When he fires however, Hellas looks great, especially on the break.

Hellas finished third in the PSL in 1978 but this year's third placing was more significant.

The morale was so low last year that it made us more determined and it brought us closer together as a club," Papasavas added.

Hellas is currently competing successfully in the inaugural Victoria Cup but winning this competition is not the only mileage Hellas can gain.

Campbell is fit again.

He is fit again.

"The Victoria Cup is a proving ground for prospective Hellas players," said Papasavas.

"We've won many major competitions in Victoria and our primary objective in the Victoria Cup was to look at other players who we could be interested in signing."

"When we discussed the prospect of entering the Cup we were unsure of our position with regard to the PSL top four competition and we didn't want to end the season so early."

Rumours have been rife for the past two weeks that the 1981 Victorian State League will be revamped and become a 14-team league with Hellas, Macedonia and J.U.S.T. fielding their second — string teams in the State League.

"The federation is talking of increasing the league and if there are any vacancies Hellas will apply," said Papasavas.

"If we get into the State League we will concentrate on using our youngsters."

"It will mean that our supporters will be able to watch our State League side whenever the PSL side plays away from home."

The inclusion of Hellas in the State League may raise interesting questions concerning the use of PSL squad members in the State League team.

"The PSL must have a solid basis for the future and a strong State League will benefit Australian soccer in general," Papasavas said.

Hellas is embarking on an important decade.

The 70's were kind to the club at first but the failure of 1979 is a shadow which only can be shaken off by success in the 80's. To this end Hellas is embarking upon an ambitious marketing plan under the guidance of former first team coach Dave MacLaren.

"Dave has an intimate knowledge of the game," said Papasavas.

"He no longer wants to coach but he would rather sell Hellas the game and sell Hellas to the soccer public."

"We are entering a new era in which we will be aiming for really big crowds and new sponsors."

"TV exposure and an aggressive marketing approach will lead to a stable and successful Hellas in the 80's."

Certainly Hellas is a club with a successful history and supporters will expect little else in the 80's."

The PSL has been in operation for four seasons and Hellas is yet to win a major honour.

A repeat of this season's dramatic rise would give the club the glory to which it once was accustomed and partially satisfy the hunger of supporters.

Few clubs in Australia have such an impressive record to live up to.



Hellas centre back Arthur Xanthopoulos (centre) and team mate Bertie Lutton (right) confront Croatia's Howard Andrews (left) and Ned Batinovic during a Victoria Cup match.

# MACLAREN TO 'SELL' HELLAS



Dave MacLaren, on the bench between Steve Walker (left) and Leo Anezakis, during his stint as Hellas coach.

**Dave MacLaren has been appointed promotions and marketing manager of South Melbourne Hellas.**

MacLaren coached Hellas in 1978 and previously was with Sydney City.

President Sam Papasavas said at the club's presentation night: "We must broaden our horizons as a club and produce a marketing programme that will aim eventually to bring 10,000 to 15,000 people to the games on a regular basis."

"Dave's expertise and contacts are appropriate in helping to achieve this aim."

"During the time he was here, the club received the best media exposure in our history."

MacLaren said: "Soccer is no different to any other marketable commodity. You have to get out there and sell it."

"If we don't sell it, we will go broke."

"The clubs are much worse off financially than they were eight years ago."

"The game takes money, and it is my job to make sure that money starts to come in, as well as to get Hellas into the newspapers from day to day."

## Bannon, Nicolaides, Trafficante

**Right back Vince Bannon won South Melbourne Hellas's best player award last week.**

His prize was a portable color TV set from Hitachi, which also provided prizes to other award-winners.

Bannon (pictured) won the Victorian Rothmans Medal while with Heidelberg United in 1973 and joined Hellas at the start of the year from State League club Frankston City.

Best clubman trophy went to Bertie Lutton and the most consistent play award to Arthur Xan-

thopoulos, who also received the "Athletic Echo" award — a trip to Manila, courtesy of Goldair Travel.

Roberto Trafficante was named best and fairest of all Hellas juniors.

Socrates Nicolaides was best player of the Hellas Second Division team. Runner-up was Paul Hagenicolaou.

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# YOUTH REPORT

*from*

## COCA-COLA BOTTLERS



The handful of fans who braved Melbourne's inclement weather to watch Croatia and Ajax bow out of the Victoria Cup last week were treated to 30 minutes of magic from 18 year old Brian Keenan who replaced Croatia striker Ned Batinovic in the 60th minute.

Few players had anything to play for but just when the game threatened to die Keenan grabbed his long awaited chance to show his worth.

A blistering run down the right culminated in a fiercely struck, well placed shot which left experienced Ajax keeper Lou Denys floundering. Keenan had taken little time in leaving a lasting impression upon the match.

Few present day Australian players started their competitive careers as early as Keenan.

When he was six years old he joined Melbourne's under-9's.

A five year stint with Melbourne ended when Keenan joined Karlingford for two years.

He returned to Melbourne's under-15's for a brief spell.

"It was hopeless," said Keenan.

"Five different coaches in one season was too much so I left and joined Chelsea in the Metro Third Division."

Keenan played in the reserves but the first soon drew upon his talent when he was 15.

## Another Keenan hits the heights

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

His first senior game was against Essendon City.

"I found it hard at first because it was a lot faster than reserve soccer. There was a lot more running and challenging required."

Croatia team manager Frank Burin heard of the promising youngster and a Sunday morning telephone conversation led to Keenan turning out for Croatia reserves in a practice match against Makedonia reserves.

The following Tuesday Keenan trained with the first team and Burin asked the youngster to join Croatia, the club he has been with for the past two seasons.

Treading in the path well worn by their fathers has proved the downfall of many budding players but Keenan has not felt any pres-

sure to emulate the fine career of his father Joe.

"He was too good to emulate," is Keenan's candid reply.

"Dad started me off when I was very young and he still is the most important person in my career. He's taught me all I know and he advises me constantly."

Keenan so far has resisted Croatia's attempts to sign him on professional forms.

"I love the game and the money angle doesn't worry me."

"I'll probably sign professional forms at some stage but if I'm still an amateur next year it's not going to bother me."

Keenan represented Victoria at under-12 and 13 levels but missed out when trialling for the State under-14's.

"I was in the under-12 side which went to Canberra and finished fourth in the national titles," he said.

"I played in three of the four games and the following year I want to Sydney with the under-13's for two games against NSW representative sides."

"Missing out on the under-14's was probably the biggest disappointment of my career."

"That was the last I heard about trials and I never was called upon again to try out for a Victorian side."

Keenan's love of the game is a refreshing attitude in a time when the contract takes pride of place in the thoughts of many players.

"A lot of players are money hungry and aren't in it just for the game."

"Clubs are under financial pressure constantly and there is always trouble with players asking for more money."

"Ever since I've started senior soccer I've heard about arguments over player payments, even at Chelsea, and there is a vast difference between Chelsea and Croatia."

Whatever the future holds for Keenan his intricate ball skill combined with an explosive burst forward, both of which he displayed against Ajax last week, is sure to provide the soccer public with the spectacle they long for.

Brian Keenan should be around for a long time.



The Scots and Yugoslavs who battled out last month's old players' game. Back, left to right: Ray Goodman, match official, Andy Kazi, Marko Forde, Sandor Kazi, John Dockerty, Slobodan Zorija, Jim Armstrong, Joe Szabo, Hugh Murney, Joe Docherty, Jim Mackay, Hugh Gunn, Tom Clark, Ernie Acerley, Jovan Milinov, Joe Keenan, John Anderson, match official. Front: Bill McArthur, Steve Bleskany, Milos Adamovic, Hammy McMeekin, Frank Micic, Ibro Hadzic, Steve Walker, Milenko Rusmir, Jimmy Millar, John Pryde.

## SCOTS AND CROATS BATTLE

An all-star Croatian eleven will meet a Scottish selection at Ross Reserve, Springvale, on 13 November from 8 pm.

## Greechan's goodbye?

Disgruntled Western Suburbs striker Kit Greechan is on the move.

Greechan joined Suburbs from Albion Rovers on a free transfer but there is a \$1,500 price tag around his neck now.

Greechan took Suburbs to the VSF tribunal last week claiming that the club owned him money and was in breach of contract.

He claimed that he should be made a free agent.

However, the tribunal ruled that Suburbs hadn't breached Greechan's contract so that talented player is up for grabs at the above mentioned price.

## Shiners present

Victorian State League club Sunshine Coast will have its pre-season night at Sunshine Golf Course on 14 November.

The newly-elected committee is: Tom Reid (president), Henry Lonski (secretary), Ron Cawley (chairman), Bob Bond (vice-president), Alex Alexi (treasurer), John Sewell (deputy chairman), Terry Hatisverapis (assistant secretary).

Sunshine is running coaching clinics for juniors at its ground in Anderson Road, from 10 am on Sundays. Coaches are Ian Petherick, Jim McRobert, Billy Johnson and Tommiv Cumming.



The Keilior Austria team which won the 1980 First Division Reserves championship. From left, standing: G. Gerick (coach), H. Ewinger, G. Murray, W. Brydon, E. Klümzak, P. Ebini, C. Gerick, J. Bauer (first aid). Front: M. Cabrera, R. Schaffner, R. Beller, A. Cabrera, G. Lardner.

## FORTUNA V. AUSTRIA

Austrian amateur team Fortuna Wien will play against Victorian First Division team Keilior-Austria on 1 February, 1981.

The game will be at Harricks Road, Keilor.

The touring Austrians will be in Melbourne for three days and Keilior will accommodate them in private homes.

Tom Brewerton has won Keilior Austria's best and fairest player award.

Brewerton previously played for Preston.

Goalkeeper Frank Petersen was named most consistent player and Omar Latif most improved.

Brian Flaherty was top scorer and Jimmy Johnson best team man.

Other Keilior-Austria awards:

RESERVES: best and fairest G. Larmer, most consistent W. Brydon, top scorer O. Latif, most improved D. Beattie, best team man G. Murray.

UNDER 19: best and fairest D. Kolaric, most consistent J. Lopez, most improved C. Tirtula, top scorer D. Kolaric, best team man M. Cumming.

UNDER 16: best and fairest E. Brezac, most consistent S. Grbvac, most improved T. Pilas, top scorer T. Tiscia, best team man J. Vassiliadis.

Frank Campbell was named best clubman. Frank McAleer has been reappointed senior coach.

Austria's next dance will be at St. Albans public hall on 6 December.

The New Year's eve ball will be at the Ukrainian Hall in Suspension Street, Ardeer.

Bookings can be made on 366 3519, 366 3152 or 459 8250.

The senior committee is: PRESIDENT: A. Csar; VICE PRESIDENT: K. Kaindlstorfer, SECRETARY: J. Bauer; ASST. SECRETARY: Mrs. E. Bauer, TREASURER: F. Kammerhofer, ASST. TREASURER: K. Kaindlstorfer, JUNIOR DELEGATE: T. Duray; V.S.F. DELEGATE: F. Brummer, SOCIAL CO-ORDINATOR: A. Csar, PUBLIC RELATIONS: Mrs. E. Csar, MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY: T. Duray; SPONSOR CO-ORDINATOR: O. Zambelli. Other committee members: W. Gollobitsch, F. Schwab, I. Swaganovic, C. Cassar.

However, he has not yet ruled out the possibility of playing for Australia, and indeed he would be a welcome addition to the Australian squad now touring Europe. No doubt Rudi Gutendorf will speak with him when the Socceroos arrive in England.

Johnston's goal gave Boro only its second win away from home this season. It came soon after half time when John Crags drove a fierce shot which Brighton keeper Graham Moseley did well to palm down. Johnston was there to pounce on the rebound and put it away for the only score of the match.

Tottenham has jumped to the head of the queue to make Middlesbrough's Craig Johnston the North East's first 1 million pound superstar.

Sprays see Johnston's all-action brand of midfield dynamism as the perfect foil to their cultured style.

And they are also facing problems, with both Argentinian ace Osvaldo Ardiles and England star Glen Hoddle completing their contracts at the end of the season.

Neither, so far, has accepted a new contract. Johnston, the 20-year-old South African-born kid who spent most of his childhood in Australia, also completes his contract at Ayresome Park in the summer.

And there is a chance that he will be prepared to remain on Teesside. At 20, and already an England Under-21 international — he has applied to become a British citizen — his potential and ambition are enormous.

London would certainly appeal to Johnston, who was so keen to embark on a career in England he paid his own fare from Australia when Boro offered him a trial.

But Spurs will face intense competition. Already Forest and Everton have cast envious eyes on Johnston.

And a tug-of-war for his services could push the price up to the magic seven figure mark — double Boro's previous record sale. David Mills, who went to West Brom for 517,000 pounds two years ago.

Boro boss John Neal will be reluctant to part with Johnston, but under the system of players' freedom of contract he has no option.

And with gates among the worst in the First Division, he has already admitted that his own needs have to be tailored to economic facts of life.

Johnston capped a great weekend when he scored the winning goal for Middlesbrough in its clash with Brighton on Saturday.

Johnston earlier had been named young player of the month, and been given a generous "wrap" from England manager Ron Greenwood, who said it was only a matter of time before he would be called up to the full England squad.

However, he has not yet ruled out the possibility of playing for Australia, and indeed he would be a welcome addition to the Australian squad now touring Europe. No doubt Rudi Gutendorf will speak with him when the Socceroos arrive in England.

Former Spurs manager Bill Nicholson, one of the judges who named Johnston as Young Player of the Month, commented: "He's like a human dynamo. He loves to go forward and be involved in the game."

"He likes doing everything quickly and he has the skill to match his stamina."

Johnston

London

bound?

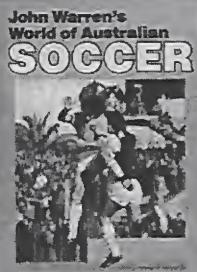


Craig Johnston

Johnston's performance earned him praise from all quarters. He was man of the match in most Sunday paper reports, and "Sunday Mirror" soccer writer Tony Stenson described his darting style as similar to Kevin Keegan's.

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"He likes doing everything quickly and he has the skill to match his stamina."



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# England's soccer revolution

From JIM COOK  
our European  
correspondent



England's football bosses last week kicked off a Sunday Soccer revolution.

From next season, clubs will almost certainly be allowed to play their matches on a Sunday.

That was one of ten recommendations made by a meeting of representatives from all 92 League clubs aimed at saving the game.

Other recommendations included three points for a win one for a draw, and a change in the soccer season which would start from September 1st and finish in May.

But Sunday soccer was top of the list and hailed by Match of the Day's Jimmy Hill, also chairman of Coventry City, as part of an exciting step into the future.

The recommendations still have to be passed by an extraordinary general meeting of the Football League.

But League secretary Graham Kelly said: "I am very confident that most, if not all, of these recommendations will go into effect next season."

"There was a very strong feeling for a Sunday Soccer revolution," said Kelly. "People thought that it will have the choice of playing their games any time between Friday evening and Sunday evening."

"We are legally not allowed to charge admission for Sunday games, but major sports like cricket have got around that problem."

The meeting, in a Solihull hotel, was called because of fears the game would die in its present format.

The recommendations to award winning teams three points and to give one point for a draw, was seen by Kelly as a highly important step to bringing excitement back into soccer.

On homogenism, the meeting decided to call for Government cash aid.

Several top English clubs were interested in Alan Simonsen the 28 year-old Danish striker with Barcelona who could be had for around 500,000 pounds. Snags is Simonson is reported to be asking 100,000 pounds a year for himself.

Crystal Palace soccer fan Barry Rondeau has been jailed for life after stabbing a Swanside supporter to death in a pre-match brawl.

Malcolm McDonald (Supermac), who guested with South Melbourne Hellas in 1977, has been appointed manager of Fulham.

Eddie Kelly the former Arsenal midfielder who as captain of Leicester City guided them into the First



Malcolm MacDonald.

Division last year looks set to repeat his feat with Notts County.

★ ★ ★

John Bond soon splashed out at Manchester City by buying Coventry winger Tom Hutchinson and his team-mate defender Bobby McDonald for 320,000 pounds. Hutchinson is a former Scottish international while McDonald has under-23 caps for Scotland.

★ ★ ★

Rene Houseman the Argentine star of the 1974 World Cup side has been in all sorts of trouble with his club and the law over the past two years.

Huracan City, suspended him several times for missing training. Now he has accused of assaulting a girl in a Buenos Aires disco. Argentine superstar Diego Maradona has helped Houseman by sharing his flat and keeping an eye one him.

★ ★ ★

John Bond has lined up another Scot for Manchester City. Gerry Gow, the 28 year-old Bristol City skipper and mid-fielder, is expected to land at Maine Road this week for a fee of 220,000 pounds.

★ ★ ★

Scottish team boss Jock Stein is reported to have been interested in Alan Richards who could fill full back of Notts County. But Jock has no hope of him playing for Scotland as he was born in London of Spanish parents and qualifies only for Spain or England.

★ ★ ★

Alan Dicks the deposed Bristol City manager is favourite for the Swindon Town position and Bobby Campbell

ex Fulham has also had his name linked with the job.

★ ★ ★

Zico may not be long in parting company with Flamengo to come to Europe. His contract with the Brazilians was out next year, and the Italians must be favourites. Zico was wanted by several Italian clubs this past summer, but didn't fight too hard when Flamengo said No — until he found out the sort of money Robert Falcao is earning at Roma! — Flamengo will go to a lot of length to keep Zico — for instance, he was the only man allowed to bring his wife on the recent European tour — but if he doesn't move soon he'll be too old, and he knows it.

Golden Boot — Rajaniemi (Sepsi) 15 goals (25 games) — Jensen (Aarhus) 13 (21), Madsen (B93 Copenhagen) 13 (21) — Ohlsson (Hammarby) 12 (19) — Jalasvaara (OPoS) 12 (25) — Andreyev (Rostov) 11 (20) — Hansen (Naestved) 11 (21) — Bjerregard (Ikast) 11 (21) — T. Nilsson (IFK Gothenburg) 10 (19) — Blomkin (Kiev) 10 (20) — Tutunen (Kuopio) 10 (25) — Skovora (Naestved) 10 (21) — Berggren (Lyngby) 10 (21).

Nahas in the news ...

Johan Cruyff's attempt at a brief one-month comeback as an amateur in aid Ajax is halted by the KNVB ... Johan Neeskens walks out of New York Cosmos ... Juan Carlos Lorenzo quits Racing Buenos Aires for Atlante of Mexico ... Victor Rodriguez is new Racing BA boss ... Oscar Ortiz, World Cup-winning winger, may be leaving River Plate ... Helder Costa, Seville and Valencia go home to Ferro Carril Oeste ... Carlos Kiese (Gremio) is eyed by both River Plate and Atletico Madrid ... Willy Kreuz, Austrian mid-fielder, suffers Achilles tendon trouble ... Anderlecht mid-fielder Lucho Cebec is hurt, yet again ... Simon Tahamata gets two goals in Standard Liege's remarkable 7-1 win at Brugge ... Mario Zagalo has taken over as Vasco da Gama ... Rudi Krol has joined Italy's Napoli ... In the Far East ... Van Der Graaf for six months ... Dynamo Berlin star Hans-Jürgen Riediger has been sidelined with knee trouble ... Jesus Saturriegui has signed a four-year contract with Real Sociedad.

Their charge was led by Bayern Munich in the champion's Cup.

Winners in 1974, 1975 and 1976, Bayern lost 2-1 to Ajax of the Netherlands in Amsterdam but that defeat barely made a dent in their 5-1 first leg lead.

Inches away from

the ball ...

West German clubs continued their country's domination of Europe when six of their seven representatives reached the third round of the three competitions.

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Alan Sunderland, grounded during a game between Arsenal and Aston Villa. At centre is Gordon Cowans of Villa.

## Sunderland, Latchford

Brisbane Lions have reached agreement with Arsenal striker, Alan Sunderland, and Everton centre-forward Bob Latchford to play here for six weeks from 9 May.

However, a meeting of the PSL Management Committee will be convened to decide whether both players will be allowed guest appearances at the same time.

Under PSL rules clubs are allowed only one overseas player for guest appearances at any one time.

Lions director Paul Templeton said, "I don't know yet if both will be allowed to play together as the rules state only one overseas player is allowed."

"However if the PSL management committee gives us permission it would be a great crowd-puller for soccer."

Templeton said both players had agreed verbally to terms with Lions and both wanted to play at the end of the English Season.

Templeton believes the two star players would be a major drawcard for Lions in only their second season at Lions Stadium, on Brisbane's far western outskirts.

## Charity Shield, and a new series...

A charity shield match between league champion Sydney City and Cup winner Marconi will kick off the 1981 PSL season in Canberra on 26 January.

The idea has been copied from England where the Charity Shield game is the prelude to each season.

The Australian equivalent will benefit a different charity every year.

A new tournament for the top Philips League clubs in 1982 will be developed and designed specially for television, hopefully with big prize money to be won.

Mr Rik Booth, executive director of ASF Marketing said, "A number of other significant and important associations will also be invited to the current end of season soccer activities subject to ASF agreement and cooperation."

"We would like, subject to sponsor approval, the tournament to be renamed the 'Australian Soccer Federation Cup tournament' for the Philips Cup."

"The final of this event in 1981 will be played at the Bruce Stadium. It will form part of a complete soccer festival and annual convention that will be held in Canberra during the preceding week."

"We will try to move as many end-of-season administrative meetings as possible for both the Philips League and ASF into Canberra during that week."

"These would include the ASF and PSL annual general meetings and other end of season executive meetings for both bodies."



This week's picture has been submitted by George Kannavas of 2A Hiscock Street, Chadstone, Vic., 3148. It shows the striker of Victorian club Central City challenging Mitcham United's goalkeeper for the ball.

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If you're an amateur photographer, here's your chance to win prizes through your hobby.

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The Canon AE-1 camera is the top-selling 35mm SLR in the world. It also is the camera "Soccer Action" uses and it is the official camera for the European Championship finals in Italy in June.

## Giants going broke

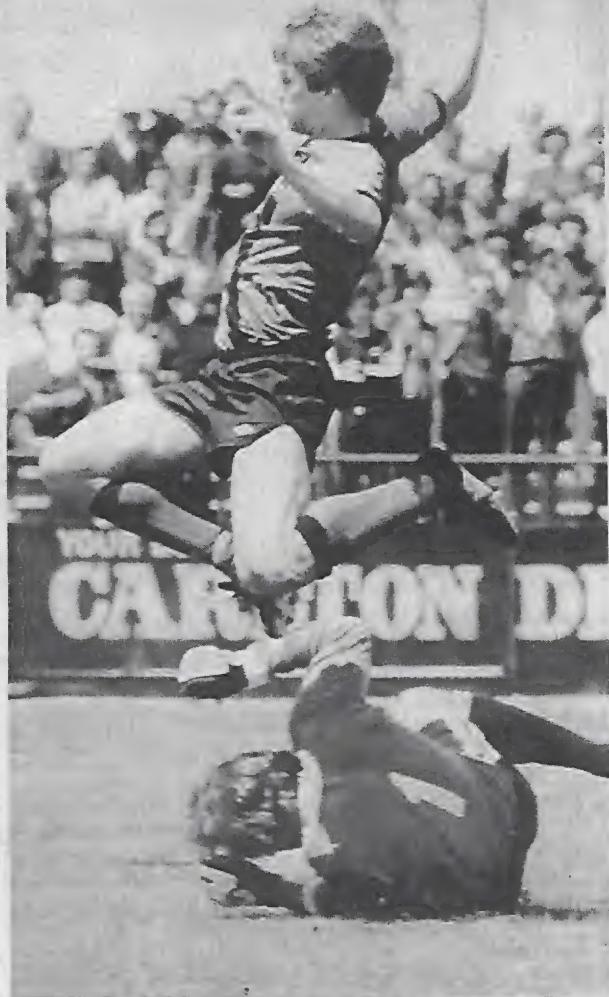
Derby, English First Division champion five years ago, lost over one million sterling (two million Aust) last season and will have to sell players to survive interest charges currently costing the club 3,000 Stg. (6,000 Aust) a week.

Tottenham reported a loss of nearly 450,000 Stg (900,000 Aust) and managed to get a resolution passed by shareholders to abolish a 500,000 Stg (one million Aust) limit on borrowing cash — though that move was mainly to ease the financing of the new 34 million Stg (seven million Aust) stand.

Liverpool, Britain's most successful club with 10 titles in the seventies, is likely to have to prune one of its four club sides and admits to needing 40,000 crowds on a regular basis to keep even.

Tottenham, once the big spenders, lost nearly one million Stg (two million Aust) on their transfer dealings, while their wage bill rose to 700,000 Stg (1.4 million Aust) which is still short of Liverpool's one million Stg (two million Aust) a year.

As the banks refuse to extend heavily committed clubs credit, it will come down to the supporters and lottery schemes to keep the League going — and already this season gates are heavily down.



Preston Makedonia midfielder Jeff Faulkner hurdles J.U.S.T. goalkeeper Dennis Boland in their Victoria Cup match at Middle Park last Sunday. Picture by LES SHORROCK.



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# Canon CLUB CLOSE-UP

# MORNINGTON



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Victorian Metropolitan League Club Mornington was formed in 1964 after a meeting between Gary Woods, Bob Barnes and Del Lines. In 1966 the club entered senior competition. In 1966 Mornington was accepted into the Metro Division Four. The early years were hard. Mornington struggled to avoid relegation regularly until Nick Van Edmond took over as player-coach in 1973. The late 70's have been kind to the club. In 1976 Lines, Eddie Ward and Nick Demopoulos founded three junior teams. There now are 150 junior players and 11 teams at the club ranging from under-7's to under-15's. This year Mornington had permanent floodlighting installed and hopes to hold night games in 1982. The club still welcomes players as far as 8 years up to go at least one better than its effort this season when it finished third in Division Four.

BACK Paul Briscoe (Melbourne Juniors 1978); Peter Vinter (Rosebud 1979); Dave Welsh (Karingal Juniors, 1979); Nick Van Edmond (Senior (Ringwood City, 1978); Tony Puazza (Karingal Juniors, 1978); Colin Glenross (Karingal Juniors, 1978); Graeff Menlove (Broadmeadows, 1974); Dave Bahon (Carlie Youth, 1974);  
FRONT: Steve Lines (Frankston City, 1977); Geoff Wallace (Bradford Youth); Nick Van Edmond (Junior (Mooroopna Juniors, 1978); Nigel Baisden (Rosebud, 1977); Robbie De Jong (Frankston City, 1978); Harry Bapst (Rosebud, 1979);  
MISSING: Mal Jones (Frankston City, 1979); John Rowe (Frankston City, 1979); Otto Leenstra (Frankston City, 1979); Paul Bent (Cheese, 1979).



# Was football played better

By DR FRIEDEBERT BECKER

Wherever football enthusiasts get together, the question "Was football played better in former days?" is often heatedly discussed - in all languages. A nostalgic "Yes" mostly triumphs among the older generation.

Yet the question can be specifically clarified. No, football is played better now than decades ago.

It is incredibly easy to find proof for this. If, for instance, the great runner Nurmi would perform today with his former world record, he would be defeated even by the juniors; he would no longer be a participant in the Olympics.

The record times are a valid proof of this.

Another example: the former world-famous swimmers of Weismüller's level with their world record times of those days would even be beaten by the young female champion swimmers of today!

Or vice versa: Today's record-holding female sprinters for 100 metres are faster than their male counterparts of the twenties.

The 1976 Olympic champion Ansgret Richter would beat the Olympic champion of 1910, Achim Han, with her present times.

The female Olympic champions in high jump of 1972 and 1976 jumped higher than the male Olympic victor in 1908. These are only a few random examples.

Referring again to the great Finnish phenomenon in running, Nurmi, my opinion is confirmed. Helmut Shoen's book where he explains why people didn't play better in former days.

And Schoen knows from his own experience as a great national player of the thirties (15 goals in 16 international matches) and after the war as Germany's most successful national coach after Herberger and till 1978.

Nowadays, one runs and swims far faster, one jumps higher and the long jumps in throwing and shot putting are achieved than 50 and even 40 or 30 years ago.

The figures reveal unmistakable, for many certainly amazing proof of this. And people say that football was played better in the old days? The reels of the documentary film "100 Years of Football" deny it.

The great team, Arsenal London of the twenties and thirties or the incredible team from Berlin of 1928/34, the Hungarian team of 1950/55 or Germany's Breslau-Eleven of 1937, the famous, ancient club teams of Rapid and Austria Vienna, Sparta and Slavia Prague, MTK Budapest, Juventus Turin, IFK Nuremberg, Schalke 04, would undoubtedly lose even against second-class teams of today.

The overhead kick (or scissor kick) got its title 50 years ago: "Caligari" hit. Because the Italian Caligari had caused this technical sensation of those days, the mid-twentieth century, for the first time on the continent. Today any slightly gifted young player can do this anywhere in the world.

The well-known vaudeville jugglers of those days, Rastelli, an Italian, also included artistic performances in football in his programme and won applause each time he demonstrated how long one can keep a football up in the air with one's foot without its touching the ground. Today this even belongs to the elements of football technique in schools.

Were the football stars of the twenties and thirties not elite? Let me pick out just a few names from the vast circle of world class players: the British David Jack, James Gallacher, Bastin Hargood, the Brazilian Leonidas, the Uruguayan Andrade, the Spanish Samitier, the Belgian Braine, the Frenchman Aston, the Norwegians Juve and Brustad, the Swede Grahn, the Czech Kadja and Jejedý, the Swiss Vernati and the brothers Abegglen, the Germans Kahl, Richard, "the pairs" Kupfer/Kitzinger and Szepan/Kirchner, Lehner/Graebel, etc.

If those stars were 20-30 years old now, they would awaken enthusiasm just like the stars of our times, though with high-level football artistry of today's calibre.

However, many of them would be changed. For instance, Schaffer and Kalb, two giants of the twenties, could not drag around a potbelly. They would be just as trained



**The legendary Hungarian Nandor Hidegkuti (dark shirt, left) and the German, Fritz Walter — were they finer players than Mario Kempes, the Argentinian who was voted best player of the 1978 World Cup tournament, and Kevin Keegan, captain of England?**

in modern football as today's elite.

Football as a game has developed incomparably on all sides. Each player must be a fit athlete. If Nurmi lived today as a 35-year-old, his unique gift as a long-distance runner would develop just as it did then though with quite a different training method of tough athletic drill. And Nurmi would again be a runner beating all the competitors and many minutes faster than in 1928.

When talking about relativity we refer to Einstein.

In relation to their time, the big stars would always be the big stars.

In the case of runners, swimmers etc. this can be checked on one's watch.

This is how the "centre forward tank" was born.

As "tanks" the British, Dean and Drake, the Scot, Gallacher became the fear of the defence. This made the latter become stronger, i.e. by tightening the loosened chains of the off-side law. The centre back appealed: the centre half who was formerly offensive, retreated among the defence in order to stand up to the centre forward "tank".

This is how the "WM" system arose. Staggered into the shape of a "W" the forwards were stronger than ever and the defence took on the form of an "M".

Both wings could develop their attacking role independently and leave their more defensive side duties over to the defence who attacked towards the outside (3 defence game).

The rigid, off positioning order had been overcome; each player got more playing room than with the old system of 5 forwards, 3 half backs and 2 full backs.

For a long time, only the British played with this modern system. Match traffic between the British and the continent was modest in those days and limited to rare representative encounters.

Germany's national coach of those days, Dr. Otto Nerz, studied football in Great Britain very carefully. And so it was not a coincidence that Germany was the first country on the European continent to embrace the European elite into the game — in Paris and Amsterdam.

A real upswing i.e. in physical condition and football tactics in the fifties and into the seventies.

Today's football i.e. the period since the end of the sixties.

It is tempting to compare among each other the big players, the famous teams, especially if one has seen them all play with one's own eyes (like the author) for over 50 years.

Today's generation can hardly imagine how football has developed during this period since the 1st World War.

As in other sports disciplines, football demanded more endurance, better physical shape, strength, more speed in movements and while running from one epoch to another.

Even a strong team of 1920 would be completely exhausted after half an hour of modern football.

Merely the greater speed of every modern player would soon defeat the old teams.

And so, today's playing class was reached step by step!

The team's tactics, the duty of every player — except for the goalkeeper — fundamentally changed too. Once — since the beginning of the century — all the players had quite a smaller radius of action. Five forwards played in a rigid line, each in a limited space only, each of the three half backs and both the full-backs too.

If, for instance, an inside left ran over to the right side or a wing-half penetrated far into the forward areas, this was often considered to be "bad positional play", demanding condemnation.

continued virtually in leaps and bounds.

Uruguay triumphed at the world championship in 1930, though Brazil was superior in behind the centre forwards and both wings.

But the Uruguayans had developed a new technique which was related to the "Riegel" and this is how they made their sensational victory against Brazil in Rio.

At the 1954 world championship in Berne, an unsurpassed series of victories came to an end: that of the Hungarians who made Germany world champion twice over, the masterly intelligent Fritz Walter and Franz Beckenbauer who ruled the entire field.

Many experts even place them all on the level of Pele and di Stefano. Their names are pronounced by every child.

Pele may have been the most famous football player of all times.

The Argentina-born di Stefano was raised above mediocrity by his splendidly controlled art of constantly swinging between attack and shooting at goal while remaining in good condition, and his masterfully controlled intervention in operations of midfield and defence.

Di Stefano could prevent a goal in his own penalty area and score a goal himself into the opponents' goal with the next move.

None of the top players of the twenties for instance, could have been physically fit for this.

Incidentally, this example of di Stefano's — among many possible ones — requires a much higher and more developed tactical order and technique.

The subject of goalkeepers is a different story!

Of course, a goalkeeper training nowadays demands far more practice than 30 or 40 years ago. However, neither technique nor tactics have changed notably for decades.

Strict physical condition speed and endurance are not as indispensable for a goalkeeper as they are for a field player.

A goalkeeper of 1920 or 1930 could still last out for 90 minutes nowadays even with his saves of yore.

Anyone who saw the big stars in goals play in the period of the twenties or thirties must concede that they tower above today's mediocrities.

Whoever recalls the star performances of the old world-renowned players of the individual players entirely dissolved the old systems.

Now a defender can also appear in attack. Wings and liberor play all over the entire field.

It is said that in future, each player will have to feel at ease in practically all of the 10 positions and be able to control each duty. Others feel that the future belongs to specialists.

It is difficult to make a comparison between players of the twenties and of today.

Moreover, the British who were leading football until the First World War isolated themselves from world football until the World War. Only a few of today's experts were given the opportunity, like I was to see the British stars of former days in action.

How can one compare a defender of yore like Minelli (Switzerland), Djalmi (Brazil), Pascual (Spain), Zenek (Czechoslovakia), Nasazzi (Uruguay), James (Germany), Hargood (England), Seita (Austria) with a defender on today's gala teams? Their duties differ too much.

Moreover, it is often typical of a modern footballer to be practically at home on the entire field. The Italian Facchetti back in the fifties or Schenninger (Germany) in the sixties expertly introduced the art of penetrating as a defender into the bigger positions also.

Only one thing is certain: today's stars play better, much better than their famous predecessors of distant times.

# in the old days?

But here is a comparison that is food for thought.

How different are those world celebrities who ruled their day in style, tactical manner and personal application — here we pick out at random some of the most illustrious: the centre forward acrobat with the ball and subtle technician, Alfred Schäffer (Hungary) or Sindlar, the brilliant centre forward of Vienna's wonder team which was unequalled in its heyday; the Brazilian Ademir, hero of the 1950 World Cup, or the two dark-skinned stars from Portugal and Brazil, Eusebio and Leonidas, the most frequently named stars of the 1966 and 1970 World Cups or the best players who made Germany world champion twice over, the masterly intelligent Fritz Walter and Franz Beckenbauer who ruled the entire field.

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Only one thing is certain: today's stars play better, much better than their famous predecessors of distant times.

The answer is not difficult: the big teams are more balanced today, the average level of the teams is higher than in former times.

It is more difficult for big players, the so-called player personalities, to stand out as solos than personalities of former times when average teams did not consist of eleven nearly equivalent team colleagues.

Football continues developing upwards.

The limits of the art of football — technical as well as tactical — are far from being reached. And the rivalry of big players is becoming more and more embittered and showing off is more and more difficult.

For the benefit of football.

From "FIFA News".

TA NEA TON OMADON MAS  
ANO TO SIMEIO TOY  
MENANTY

KAIKTON XIAA

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ΕΛΛΗΝΟΣ και γέροντας στο Κάρπετο ΧΑΙΑ.  
Αγωνίστης πολεμούσας δικαίως την επιθυμία της νίκης  
επέστρεψε στην Ελλάδα μετά την έναρξη της Μεγάλης Απόστρατης  
επί την Σαρδηνίανα στην οποία η Ελλάδα ήταν η μόνη ομάδα  
που διατηρήθηκε στην πρώτη θέση.

Η ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ομάδα προσέρχεται στην ΕΠΙΧΟΡΗΣΗ  
ΕΠΙΧΟΡΗΣΗ ΠΡΩΤΑΘΛΗΜΑΤΟΣ  
ΤΟΥ ΕΛΛΑΣ ΤΟΥ 11-18 ημ. από ώρα 3:30 μ.μ. στη  
ΣΕΛΙΔΑ ΤΗΣ ΕΠΙΧΟΡΗΣΗΣ ΗΜΕΡΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΕΠΙΧΟΡΗΣΗΣ  
ΕΠΙΧΟΡΗΣΗ ΛΙΓΑ

ΤΟ ΣΑΒΒΑΤΟ 15 Νοεμβρίου στην θέση  
στην οποία η Ελλάδα ήταν η μόνη ομάδα  
που διατηρήθηκε στην πρώτη θέση 3 άστρων στην Βασιλική Στρατιωτική Σχολή  
στον Καραϊσκάκη στην Αθήνα.

Στην ημέρα της ΕΠΙΧΟΡΗΣΗΣ η Ελλάδα ήταν η μόνη ομάδα που διατηρήθηκε στην πρώτη θέση 3 άστρων στην Βασιλική Στρατιωτική Σχολή  
στον Καραϊσκάκη στην Αθήνα.

Η ΕΠΙΧΟΡΗΣΗ ήταν στην ημέρα της ΕΠΙΧΟΡΗΣΗΣ ΗΜΕΡΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΕΠΙΧΟΡΗΣΗΣ  
ΕΠΙΧΟΡΗΣΗ ΛΙΓΑ

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